

Please amend claims 1, 20, 29, 32, 35, 40-42, 44, 47, 50, and 51 to read as follows:

DJ Sub 82
1. (Twice Amended) A fusion protein expression cassette, comprising a promoter operably linked to a nucleic acid molecule that encodes an indolicidin analog fusion protein, wherein the encoded fusion protein comprises a structure of (indolicidin analog)-[(cleavage site)-(indolicidin analog)]_n with n being an integer having a value between one and three and wherein the indolicidin analogs have antimicrobial activity.

DJ Sub 83
20. (Twice Amended) A method of producing a fusion protein that contains at least one indolicidin analog, comprising culturing the recombinant host cell of claim 16 under conditions and for a time sufficient to produce said fusion protein.

DJ Sub 83
29. (Amended) A multi-domain fusion protein expression cassette, comprising a promoter operably linked to a nucleic acid molecule that encodes a fusion protein, wherein the encoded fusion protein comprises a structure of [(cleavage site)-(indolicidin analog)-(cleavage site)-(anionic spacer peptide)]_n with n being an integer having a value between 1 and 40 and wherein the indolicidin analogs have antimicrobial activity.

DJ
32. (Amended) The expression cassette according to claim 55 wherein the carrier is selected from cellulose binding domain, glutathione-S-transferase, outer membrane protein F, β -galactosidase, protein A, or IgG-binding domain.

DJ
35. (Amended) The expression cassette according to claim 55 wherein the carrier is less than 100 amino acid residues in length.

DJ
40. (Amended) The expression cassette according to claim 29 wherein the cumulative charge of the anionic spacer peptide reduces the cumulative charge of the indolicidin analog.

(Df Sub B3)
Df conclude

41. (Amended) The expression cassette according to claim 29 wherein the fusion protein comprises from about 5 to about 30 indolicidin analogs.

(Df)

42. (Amended) The expression cassette according to claim 29 wherein the fusion protein comprises from about 10 to about 20 indolicidin analogs.

(Df)

44. (Amended) The expression cassette according to any one of claims 1 or 29 wherein the indolicidin analog has up to 35 amino acids comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO:35 or SEQ ID NO:36.

(Df)

47. (Amended) A recombinant host cell comprising the expression cassette according to any one of claims 29, 37, 41, or 42.

(Df Sub B3)

50. (Amended) A method of producing a fusion protein that contains at least one indolicidin analog, comprising culturing the recombinant host cell of claim 47 under conditions and for a time sufficient to produce the fusion protein.

51. (Amended) The expression cassette according to any one of claims 1, 2, 29, or 54 wherein the expression cassette is contained in an expression vector.

Please add new claims 54-64 to read as follows:

(Df)

54. (New) The expression cassette according to claim 29 further consisting of one additional indolicidin analog or two additional indolicidin analogs, wherein the additional analog or analogs are at the carboxy-terminus of the encoded fusion protein.

55. (New) The expression cassette according to any one of claims 29 or 54 further comprising a carrier amino acid sequence wherein the carrier amino acid sequence is at the amino-terminus of the encoded fusion protein.

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Concluded

56. (New) The expression cassette according to any one of claims 1, 29, or 54 wherein the indolicidin analog is SEQ ID NO:36.

57. (New) The expression cassette according to claim 55 wherein the indolicidin analog is SEQ ID NO:36.

58. (New) The recombinant host cell according to claim 53 wherein the encoded indolicidin analog fusion protein is expressed as an insoluble protein.

59. (New) A recombinant host cell comprising the expression cassette according to claim 57 wherein the expression cassette is contained in an expression vector.

60. (New) A recombinant host cell comprising the expression cassette according to claim 58 wherein the expression cassette is contained in an expression vector.

61. (New) The recombinant host cell according to claim 59 wherein the encoded indolicidin analog fusion protein is expressed as an insoluble protein.

62. (New) The recombinant host cell according to claim 60 wherein the encoded indolicidin analog fusion protein is expressed as an insoluble protein.

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63. (New) A method of producing a fusion protein that contains at least one indolicidin analog, comprising culturing a recombinant host cell according to claim 59 under conditions and for a time sufficient to produce said fusion protein.

64. (New) A method of producing a fusion protein that contains at least one indolicidin analog, comprising culturing a recombinant host cell according to claim 60 under conditions and for a time sufficient to produce said fusion protein.